



# DEBUNKING THE ANIMALS



TRAMBURG CHEST in published every two works during the alloof year, exerc during the holders, by Gr. A. Phenophysical Chest and Chest Research (Dec. Application for every a second consumption produces and the produce and the produces and the produce and the produces are produced as the produces and the produces and the produces and the produces are produced as the produces are produced





























DREN ROAMED THE STREETS, SINGING













GET SOMETHING TO FAT HE WENT OUT OF THE HOUSE AND DOWN THE DINGY STREET. LOOKING FOR A RESTAURANT.



























































































Red Stevens was a riot of color as he fought his way through the storm to PC Headquarters on South Fifteenth Street: Against the snow his lumberiacket was like fire and his streaming muffler like flame. But brightest blaze of all was Red's red head. Fat Gorman always explained that Red wore his leather helmet only in storms because, without rain or snow, the leather would be grilled like a hamburger on Red's fiery thatch

This day, however, Fat needn't worry, for the snow clung even to Red's evebrows and lashes as he turned into Fifteenth Street, guided more by instinct than by sight. No mere blizzard could keep Red from PC Headquarters this day after Christmas. He was hoping the whole club would be there in its official home, on the town's edge, in the once shabby, scrubby shack, now boasting paint, padlocks, pictures and a grand name-The Club for the Prevention of Crime.

The smoking stovepipe gladdened Red's heart; the others were there. He had something for them today. And they had something for him-a little hard snow just inside the door. Bursting with his news, Red didn't look down; Red stepped on the slippery slab and down went Red. The crash knocked wind and news out of him. The news came back before there was enough wind to put it into words "Listen-," Red gasped, his head on Mike

Fields' feet, his feet in Tod Worth's lap. Bill Townsend, ever Red's helpful friend.

put the coal scuttle-with the coal-on Red's head; and Fat Gorman, from the one rocking chair, judged Red's behavior severely "You should," said Fat, "go to a girl's school

where you learn to enter a room politely." "Listen," cried Red, "I just got a letter from Uncle Charley."

"Didn't know he could write," said Mike Fields. "I thought maybe sometime I'd go up to that lake where he lives and teach him."

Red shook off a mixture of snowflakes and coal dust. He answered Mike slowly: "Well. Mickey boy, get Uncle Charley's first lesson ready. We leave this afternoon on the twothirty train."

Fat looked at Bill, Bill at Tod, Tod at Mike Mike looked at Red and Red looked wise Fat broke the silence: "I knew a fall would scatter his brains. They can't even be swept together again. And he used to be sanel

"I was never saner," exploded Red. "Listen to Uncle Charley's letter: 'Here's my Christmas present to you. If you and those four drips you call friends can come to my cottage at Bird Lake, I promise you a week's fun you'll never forget-all expenses paid. The day after Christmas would be fine to start. Wire me and I'll meet the train."

Telephones jangled upon the walls of various homes. Mothers' voices, worried and indecisive, asked each other about the proposed trip. It was such bad weather, cold and snowy, you never could tell what might happen. . .

It took more than an hour for matters to straighten themselves out. Red. Tod. Fat and Bill could go, but Mrs. Fields was afraid in would be too much for Mike. He already had a cold and he wasn't robust. She was sorry, but ... Mike sat alone in his room and looked out the

window at the thick heavy flakes. There was

a set expression about his lips and the muscles of his jaws were lumped into hard knots to keep from making a sound.

All the fun and glow of Christmas had gone out of things. Downstairs, his tree glittered with tinsel and trimmings. His electric train, his new chemistry set, his mechancial builder and a pair of shinning see skates were forgotten. He had been so thrilled about them yesterday,

He had been so thrilled about them yesterday, but now he found he couldn't go to Bird Lake. He sat motionless, his shoulders hunched up. It was hard for anyone else to understand just how much being a member of the PC Club meant to Mike. It was the greatest thing in all

meant to Mike. It was the greatest thing in all the world to him, that he was a member when other, and larger boys, were not. He would rather die than fail the Club. And now, all the others were going to Bird Lake without him! THE STATION WAS FILLED with the

noh and roar of the train as it pulled in. Bitter, strong smoke powerf form its modestack and settled toward the platform which trembled and shook beneath the weight of the train. Passengers peered without interest from the windows of the coaches as it came to a stop. They saw four boys struggling with grips, skates, bickey sticks, etc., nals from the station toward the train. Three mothers trailed them, andoss expression upon their faces.

The conductor lifted their equipment up the steps and glanced at his watch. Farther up the tracks men were busying throwing mail sacks and baggage aboard.

"I can go after all!"

Then Mr. Fields and Mike were upon them aid the conductor was calling "B-o-a-r-dl". They scrambled up the steps and stood at the top talking and waving. The train jarred, quivered and began to move slowly. The conductor swung aboard and the trin was begun.

Mr. Fields and the mothers waited upon the platform until the train was out of sight. Then Mr. Fields turned to the others. "I found Mike sitting all alone in his room," he said, "and I

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couldn't let him do that. He'll be all right." Mr. Fields understood his son.

IT WAS WARM INSIDE THE COACH and comfortable. It smelled "trainy" and from time to time smoke from the engine pushed against the windows and was snatched away by the wind. The train jostled and jolted a little. The wheels sent out a monotonous rhythm that was satisfying.

rnythm that was satisfying.

Tod, Red, Fat, Bill, and Mike all sat together
with their bags resting in the luggage rack
above their heads. They had pushed one of the
seat-backs forward so that they could all be in
one group. Tod, Red, and Mike rode forward
while Fat and Bill rode backward.

The coach was not cowded. Here and there as man read an exespaper. A woman farther back in the coach was trying to get a budy to sleep. Directly opposite the boys at a man reading a magazine. He was tall, slender and dark, his beard blase black through the skin of his chin. A small, black musteche, carefully strumed, admoral to super lip. His eyes were black, his hair critally and cently beneath his vacarfully directed in adds with From time to time he glanced casually at the five boys across the aidse.

Red had made exactly seven trips to the water cooler and back when the conductor entered. At sight of him Red's face lit up. "Hello, Mr. Watt," he said. "How are you?" That yentleman paused and looked at Red.

"Hello, Red," he said. "Merry Christmas!" Red shook hands.

"Merry Christmas to you," he answered,
"And a happy New Year." Mr. Watt nodded

seriously.

"Thank you," he said. "Happy New Year to

you." Then he looked at Tod, Mike, Fat, and Bill. "Where are you boys going?" "Bird Lake," Red answered. "We're going up

bird Lake, Red answered. "We're going up to spend a week with Uncle Charley."
"Tell Uncle Charley Merry Christmas for

me," Mr. Watt told the boys. Then a sudden thought struck him. "Say! This is the whole PC Club, isn't it?"

"Sure," Red nodded. Mr. Watt grinned.
"I heard about your Club from your father,"
he went on. "All of you going along in a posse

he went on. "All of you going along in a posse like this looks rather suspicious. Think you'll find any crime up there?"

"If there is any crime in the vicinity," Red

answered seriously, "we'll take care of it. The PC Club is always on the lookout for lawbreakers."

"Well," Mr. Watt continued, "you never can tell when a crime is going to come right up and hit you on the nose." Mr. Watt took their tickets and continued on through the coach. There was a short silence and then Tod caught the stranger across the aisle looking at them curiously. He frowned slightly and the stranger snock.

"What," he asked, "is the PC Club? That is, if you don't mind talking to a man you never saw before,"

Five pairs of eyes regarded him

"We don't mind," Tod answered, "talking to anybody, provided we know who that anybody is."

The stranger nodded his approval. "That's only fair," he said. "My name's Tony Evans." Tod held out his hand. "Mine's Tod Worth,"

Tod held out his hand. "Mine's Tod Worth,"
he answered and introduced the others. Tony
Evans greeted them all.
"Now." he said, when that was over, "what's

this PC Club?"

Tod explained that the initials "FC" stood for the Prevention of Crime. The Club had been organized a year before and boasted five members. It operated by dividing their city up into five Sectors, or Divisions, and each member was responsible for all the Crime in his Sector. A Daily Report was made at PC Headquarters,

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and any suspicious happenings recorded in the Early Report Book were discussed. Nothing any more exciting than lost dogs, pocketbooks, or children ever seemed to come their way.

Such a state of affairs was rather discouraging.
Tony Evans inclined his head thoughtfully.
"I see what you mean," he said, "but you never can tell, as the conductors said. Maybe if you boys keep trying long enough a real crime tell

come along

"I'm going to Bird Lake, myself," Tony Evans continued. "That's why I spoke to you in the first place."

"You own a cottage there?" Tony Evans hook his head.
"No," he answered carelessly, "just know

"No," he answered carelessly, "just know some, er, friends who do, though." There was a silence for a few minutes and

There was a silence for a few minutes and Tony Evans leaned back in his seat. "Glad to have met you," he said. "Maybe

we'll see more of each other at the lake. If you should run across any crime or criminals while you're up there, let me know, will you?" "Why?" Tod asked. Tony became strangely

silent, a crooked half-grin changing his friendly face.
"Sure," Bill answered, "we'll let you know."
Doubt flooded the faces of the other four and, until they reached Bird Lake, they seldom took

their eyes off Tony.

(Continued in the next issue.)



Age Doctor of Divinity shop DOWN Dropped explosives up

Lowest point Nors of the scale Incorporated (abbr.) Fight What we write on

Likewise not Light blow

Y. ball team Large deer

King of beasts (plu.)

Comes in a ped Grow smaller toward

42. Sallors ANSWER IN NEXT ISSUE



Plenty of fun in this new word game! The idea is to see who can get the highest score. You can play it against your friends, or try to beat our score of 122 as shown in the example below. The rules are simple: Fill the diagram with 3 good English words (no proper nouns). Then give each letter its value as shown in our Letter Value chart. To der your acore, add up the total value of the 16 letters. Don't use different forms of the same word: like BUN

and RAN, GIVE and GIVING.



Mr. Four-by-four feels mighty chipper in his new checked suit. Just one little really elegant. Maybe you can help cort Using each of the numbers from 1 to 16 inclusive. fill in all of the squares se that each row-horizontally. vertically, and along the two main diagonals—will add up

thrown in to get you off to a good start. ANSWER BY MERT MOUR American Catholic History Research Center and University Archives, Catholic University of America

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LETTER VALUES

P-10



OUR LENTEN RESOLUTIONS ? SAGGING AT THE KNEES JUST A LITTLE ? FATHER DIAMOND KNOWS HOW WE FEEL-AND HE IN THE NEXT ISSUE.









AND DO RAGS COME FROM BAGWEED YOU HAVE A "DATE" WITH BILLY AND MARY IN THE LAND WHERE PEPPER GROWS PLUS - THE REBEL ISLANDS -

MART TWO IN THE STORY OF MARYLAND MERE WE SEE THE RAMOOS FATHER WHITE IN ACTION. MYSTERY OF THE LIMPING MAN THINGS HAPPEN FOR "RED" AND HIS FRIENDS MYSTERIOUS STRANGERS AND GROWING DEBUNKING ANIMALS -PUZZLE PAGE - AUTHUR ANGE OF

## RUMPUS ROOM- WE'ZE HELP THE YOUNG PORING AUNT.

### Presenting TREASURE CHEST The new, approved-type of comic magazine

More than four years ago the publishers of the MESSENGERS laid plans to issue a worthwhile comic magazine as a counteractive to the objectionable type. However, government regulations on paper, as a result of war needs, soon put a stop to these plans. The publishers were allotted only enough paper to continue with the MESSENGERS

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